This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims

1. (Presently Amended) A system for providing controlled access to an object and other associated information file by a plurality of users comprising: means for establishing an object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data, each group of data having associated access criteria for access to the groups of data; a database for storing the object and associated information, means for establishing access criteria wherein each group of data has ~~an associated~~ a user privilege associated with it for identifying separate groups of information to which user may have access to the groups of data and setting a user's ID including defining which users are allowed to access the object and associated information and ~~associated~~ user privileges associated with the object and information; a central processing unit (CPU) for controlling the access to the database in accordance with the access criteria; a memory for storing software code for controlling the operation of the CPU; a cache memory for storing user ID's; a cache memory for storing user access criteria; and access application code stored in the memory and executable by the CPU, the application code being responsive to the user ID and user access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within an object and to predetermined privileges for allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the object by an individual user according to the user's access privileges, thereby transmitting a redacted object to the user wherein transmitting a redacted object includes sending an electronic object to the user that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and that excludes groups of information to which the user does not have access.

2. (Presently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein access includes the ability of a user to read the contents of ~~the~~ a requested object.

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3. (Presently Amended) A system according to claim 2, wherein access includes the ability to modify the contents of ~~the~~ a requested object.

4. (Presently Amended) A system according to claim 3, wherein the ability to modify includes the ability to delete information contained in ~~the~~ a requested object.

5. (Presently Amended) A system according to claim 3, wherein the ability to modify includes the ability to add data to ~~the~~ a requested object.

6. (Presently Amended) A system according to claim 1 wherein the access is determined by a business relationship to produce products and defined by the host according to the need of information in ~~the~~ a product chain.

7. (Presently Amended) A method of controlling access to objects stored in electronic form, comprising: establishing an object including loading information into the object into separate groups having separate privilege access criteria; storing the object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data, establishing access criteria wherein each group of data having an associated user privilege including identifying separate groups of information to which the user may have access criteria for access to the groups of data; setting a user's ID including defining which users are allowed to access the object and associated information and user privileges; controlling the access to the database using a central processing unit (CPU) according to the access criteria; storing software code for controlling the operation of the CPU in memory; verifying a user's user privilege access criteria including extracting the user's user identification from ~~the~~ an object request, verifying the user's user identification first in cache memory and if not in cache then in main memory ~~the user's user identification~~ and identifying the groups of data to which the user has access and privileges with respect thereto thereby allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the object by an individual user according to the user's privileges in response to the access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within an object and to predetermined privileges upon verification of user ID and user privileges, searching first in cache and

if not found in memory then in main memory and retrieving the data requested according to the user's access criteria and transmitting a redacted object to the user wherein transmitting a redacted object includes sending an electronic object to the user that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and that excludes groups of information to which the user does not have access.

8 – 12 (Canceled)

13. (Presently Amended) A computer program product for use with a computer system, a central processing unit and means coupled to the central processing unit for storing a database to automatically manage objects for viewing and marking an object having varying formats without the use of any originating application of a file to view the object, comprising: computer readable code means for establishing an object in a storage location including loading information into the object into separate groups having separate privilege access criteria; storing the object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data,; computer readable code means for identifying a user to have access to the object; computer readable code means for establishing privilege access criteria that define the scope of access of the object for the user whereby each group of data has an associated user privilege that define the scope of access of the object for the user [[[;]]] including identifying separate groups of information to which the user may have access criteria for access to the groups of data; setting a user's ID including defining which users are allowed to access the object and associated information and user privileges;; computer readable code means for receiving an object request by a user; computer readable code means for verifying the user's user privilege access criteria including extracting the user's user identification from the object request, verifying the user's user identification first in cache memory and if not in cache then in main memory the user's user identification and identifying the groups of data to which the user has access and privileges with respect thereto thereby allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the object by an individual user according to the user's privileges in response to the access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within an object and to predetermined privileges upon

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verification of user ID and user privileges, searching first in cache and if not found in memory then in main memory and retrieving the data requested according to the user's access criteria; and computer readable code means for transmitting a redacted document according to the user's user privilege access criteria including sending an electronic object to the user that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and that excludes groups of information to which the user does not have access.

14. (Presently Amended) A computer program device, comprising: a computer program storage device readable by a digital processing apparatus; a program stored on the program storage device and including instructions executable by the digital processing apparatus for controlling the apparatus to perform a method of managing documents for viewing and marking an object having varying formats without the use of any originating application of a file to view the object stored in the file, comprising: establishing an object in a storage location including loading information into the object into separate groups having separate privilege access criteria; storing the object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data ; identifying a user to have access to the object; establishing privilege access criteria that define the scope of access of the object for the user; receiving an object request by a user; verifying the user's ser privilege access criteria including extracting the user's user identification from the object request, verifying the user's user identification first in cache memory and if not in cache then in main memory the user's user identification and identifying the groups of data to which the user has access and privileges with respect thereto thereby allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the object by an individual user according to the user's privileges in response to the access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within an object and to predetermined privileges upon verification of user ID and user privileges, searching first in cache and if not found in memory then in main memory and retrieving the data requested according to the user's access criteria; and transmitting a redacted object according to the user's user privilege access criteria including sending an electronic object to the user that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and that excludes groups of information to which the user does not have access.

15. (Presently Amended) In a computer server having a data base for storing data pertaining to product information, a method of securely transferring data between a source and an access destination comprising: establishing an object in a storage location including loading information into the object into separate groups having separate privilege access criteria; storing the object, the object comprising distinguishable groups of data, identifying a user to have access to the object; establishing privilege access criteria wherein each group of data has an associated user privilege that define the scope of access of the object for the user [[[;]]] including identifying separate groups of information to which the user may have access criteria for access to the groups of data; setting a user's ID including defining which users are allowed to access the object and associated information and user privileges; receiving [[[a]]] an object request by a user; verifying the user's user privilege access criteria including extracting the user's user identification from the object request, verifying the user's user identification first in cache memory and if not in cache then in main memory the user's user identification and identifying the groups of data to which the user has access and privileges with respect thereto thereby allowing controlled access to individual groups of data contained within the object by an individual user according to the user's privileges in response to the access criteria associated with the groups of data contained within an object and to predetermined privileges upon verification of user ID and user privileges, searching first in cache and if not found in memory then in main memory and retrieving the data requested according to the user's access criteria; and transmitting a redacted object according to the user's user privilege access criteria including sending an electronic object to the user that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and that excludes groups of information to which the user does not have access.

16. (Previously Added) The system of claim 1 further including means for sending an electronic object to the user that contains the groups of information to which the user has access to and that excludes groups of information to which the user does not have access.